



BVF COMMITTEE MEETING

Via Zoom

23 October 2024

MINUTES

Present: Carl Morris (President) CM, Gillian Aghajan GA, Kola Ayanwale (KA), Naomi Donaldson (ND), Jane Hutchison (JH), Paul Baillache (PB), Graham Paul (GP), Lucy Wright (LW).

24/28 Apologies

Beth Davidson

24/19 Actions from previous meetings

The following actions were noted and are ongoing:

Action	Member	Status
Contact Steve Kemp re tapping into BF ADP	KA	Ongoing
Distribute survey re reinforced clothing for vets	GP/LW	Ongoing
Sort out PayPal with John Mason	PB	Ongoing
Ask Joe Pearce to organise referees on the day at Guildford	GP	Ongoing
Attempt to book all refs from last year's Guildford	KA	Ongoing
Arrange DT for AG and Nats	ND/KA/GP	Ongoing
Book Bill for AG medical cover	PB	Ongoing
Send AG rules to LW for publishing	ND/LW	Ongoing
Find someone to be the public face at AG on Saturday	ND/KA/GP	Ongoing
Ask Excalibur to provide pistes in exchange for a stand for AG	CM	Ongoing
Attempt to book all refs from last year's AG	ND	Ongoing
Register all events on BF refereeing system	KA	Ongoing
Insert selection procedure into Rules and Regs	LW	Ongoing
Review policies re black cards and team selection	CM/LW	Ongoing
Prepare advertising campaign for 40-49 year olds	GA/LW	Ongoing
Send advertising flyer to LW for printing	GA/LW	Ongoing
Amend Rules and Regs	LW	Ongoing
Welfare Officer for Rules and Regs	CM/LW	Ongoing
Review Disciplinary Policy	CM/LW	Ongoing
Review Press and Media	CM/LW	Ongoing
Liaise with John Mason over payments system	LW	Ongoing
Amend application form	LW	Ongoing

24/30 Finance: Treasurer's Report

There will be approximately a £2000 surplus at the end of the year. Losses were made on the Age Groups and Nationals which should be addressed.

24/31 **Competitions**

24/31.1 **World Championships**

GA reported that everything had gone well. The World Championships 2025 will be in Tunis, Tunisia. Category one fencers (aged 40-50) will be included in the 2025 Championships in all weapons pending confirmation at the Comex in November.

Due to the fact that the Team seeding comes from performance in the individual, it was decided that there should be a discussion on World Team selection as to whether it is pre-selected or made during the event.

24/32.2 **Ranking events**

There may be an influx of 40-50 year olds into the events now that they can fence at the Worlds. There was a discussion on selection and whether or not to use the European Individual this year instead of Guildford. It was decided to stick with using Guildford, the Nationals and the Age Groups as ranking events.

The Committee discussed being able to use discretion for fencers who are replacing those who have qualified in the top four places. On a majority vote (five for and three against) it was decided not to use discretion but to offer the next placed fencer in the rankings the opportunity to fence.

24/32.3 **Guildford**

GP reported that he will be away from 7 November and did not want to be the main organiser of the event. An alternative needs to be found. **CM**

Mike Robinson and Phil Palmer are running DT.

Gillian is being the 'face of the competition'.

Medical cover has been arranged (Bill Berkley).

PB has purchased the medals.

KA has contacted referees, but needs to follow up. 20 epee refs and 16 foil and sabre refs are required.

6 or 7 rooms have been booked at the Premier Inn.

Uncertainty as to whether we can get a LP stand. CM to contact Graham Forster to see if Allstar could provide a stand. Excalibur also a possibility. **CM**

Doubt as to whether EVF rules or the BF trans policy will take precedence, but may not be an issue.

24/31.4 **Age Groups**

ND is unavailable. PB can be the 'face of the competition' on one day. Need another. **ND**

Need people to set up on Friday night. **ND**

GP has the stands for the boxes.

Mike Robinson is running DT.

Peter and Janet Huggins will be there to provide armoury and manage the floor.

Hotel rooms have been booked for refs.

ND working on the floor plan.

If refreshments are going to be a problem as they were last year, Marcia's daughter may be approached.

24/31.4 **Nationals**

The venue has been booked.

Kola is the organiser.

DT needs to be arranged. Approach John Crouch or ND's friend. **KA**

24/31.5 **Winton**

The Committee noted the results of the survey and had a discussion about the floor. 26 people were either dissatisfied or extremely dissatisfied with the floor, but most fencers preferred everyone together in one hall. Lilleshall has a better floor and Billesley allows everyone to fence together. The Committee voted on which venue to use next year and on a majority vote (4 for, 3 against and 1 abstention) it was decided to use Lilleshall next year providing that the booking can be guaranteed and that the price is reasonable. CM to ask Marcia to find out more. **CM** There was a discussion about how to fill the teams, but no better system was suggested.

24/31.6 Bard's Bash

JH to contact Chris Buxton regarding potential dates. **JH**

24/31.7 German Match

It had been suggested that Stratford-Upon-Avon would be a good venue. JH to check with Chris Buxton whether there are any dates in August. There was a suggestion that it could be combined with the Bard's Bash. **JH**

CM to email Silke to see whether the date has to be in August. **CM**

24/32 Selection

24/32.1 The policy to remain the same as the previous season except for the reigning World Champion clause (see 24/32.2). Secretary to publish policy on website. **LW**

24/32.2 On a majority vote (5 for and 3 against) it was agreed that reigning World Champions should receive an additional 50 points in the ranking list in recognition of their achievement.

24/33 Trans fencers

The BF policy was noted that in 2025 trans women will fence in with the men in a new 'mixed' category, which will also be open to women. This will not apply to National qualifying competitions.

24/34 Visits to the Fencing Museum

JH has organised trips for groups of people to visit Malcolm Fare's Fencing Museum. This has been very successful. Although Malcolm does not charge an entry fee he has suggested that BVF donate some money to British Fencing. The Committee agreed to donate £250 to BF and JH volunteered to write an article about this activity and the donation for the newsletter. **PB**

24/35 AOB

When the Selection rules are published there needs to be a clause to say that anyone accepting a place will need to fence all competitors. **LW**

The annual match against the Royal Navy will take place on 24 November on HMS President. CM to select teams in GP's absence.

24/36 Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be held via Zoom on Tuesday 10 December at 4pm.

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Register all events on BF refereeing system	KA
Insert selection procedure into Rules and Regs	LW
Review policies re black cards and team selection	CM/LW
Prepare advertising campaign for 40-49 year olds	GA/LW
Send advertising flyer to LW for printing	GA/LW
Amend Rules and Regs	LW
Welfare Officer for Rules and Regs	CM/LW
Review Disciplinary Policy	CM/LW
Review Press and Media	CM/LW
Liaise with John Mason over payments system	LW
Amend application form	LW
Find an alternative organiser for Guildford	CM
Ask Graham Forster to provide kit stand for Guildford	CM
Find helpers to set up AG on Friday night	ND
Arrange DT for Nationals	KA
Ask Marcia to investigate terms and price of Lilleshall	MS
Liaise with Chris Buxton about dates for German Match and Bard's Bash	JH
Contact Silke re German Match dates	CM
Publish selection policy	LW
Donate £250 to BF on behalf of Malcolm Fare	PB
Write article re museum visits for newsletter	JH
Select teams for Navy match	CM

Lucy Wright

BVF Secretary

7 November 2024